



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser:
<https://zoom.us/j/99272551544>

To call in by phone, dial toll-free **833-548-0276**, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **992 7255 1544#**.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

AB 361 Updates:

Public Comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of the October, 2021 Meeting
3. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
4. Public Comment
5. Discussion and Comments regarding the October 30, 2021, cleanup event at Orcutt Ranch Park.
6. Discussion and Planning Action on the Cleanup Event scheduled for November 20 (Environmental Awareness Day).
7. Discussion and Possible Action on future cleanup events for December; 2021, and for January and February, 2022.
8. Discussion and Possible Action on creating a community garden; report on progress of "paper street" with Councilman Lee's office by Brad and Steve; possibility of other locations.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on creating a community garden: Report on progress of "paper street" with Lee's office by Brad and Steve and possibility of other locations.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Creation of a Pocket Park or Parklett – Related to LADOT Livable Streets Projects

A pocket park (also known as a parkette, mini-park, vest-pocket park or vesty park) is a small park accessible to the general public. Pocket parks are frequently created on small, irregular pieces of land, in vacant building lots, along the centers of broad avenues, or even in parking spots. They also may be created as a component of the public space requirement of large building projects.

Examples in LA -- [pocket park la city - Bing images](#)
 Bureau of Engineering -- [06 - Parklets | Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering Permit Manuals \(lacity.org\)](#)
11. Discussion and Possible Action on stakeholder’s request to plant trees or shrubs on empty dividers on Valley Circle between Victory and Vanowen
12. Discussion and Possible Action on a West Hills Best Garden or Landscaping Contest – Possibly a Photo Contest
13. LA City Park Maintenance Updates -- including reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks
14. Discussion and Possible Action on ROW Letters
15. Strike team Reports
16. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and prior suggested projects:
 - a. Attracting nurseries/garden shops to beautify an area and then get “free publicity” for the cleanup
 - b. Post office update
 - c. Spring Plantings – locations and sponsors –
 - d. Suggestions for dog poop left by careless neighbors
 - e. Any new ideas???
17. Suggestions for the December Agenda

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings: When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in *9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the “raise hand” button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, city law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics@lacity.org/lobbying For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email NCsupport@lacity.org or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

Public Access of Records: In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC’s executive director via email at Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.WestHillsNC.org.

Servicios De Traducción: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, October 19, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Anthony Searce (left the meeting at 6:30 PM), Myrl Schreiber, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent was Tariq El-Atrache. Also present were Bonnie Klea and Christina Walsh. A quorum was established.
2. The September 21, 2021 minutes were approved as amended.
3. Comments from the Chairs: Faye advised that Kian Gholibeik has resigned from this committee. Brad asked if anyone would like to become a new member or know anyone who would like to be a new member. There were no responses.
4. Public Comment: None.
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Cleanup Events for October 30, November 20 (Environmental Awareness Day), December, 2021, and suggestions and dates for 2022.

Faye advised that she spoke by telephone with Edgar Fuentes, Acting Park Maintenance Supervisor at Orcutt Ranch Park, to let him know the committee will be cleaning up the park fencing along March Avenue and Justice Street at Orcutt Ranch Park on October 30, 2021. Mr. Fuentes was very happy to hear that. Faye reminded the committee that on November 20 we will be tabling at Environment Awareness Day at Chatsworth Train Station and will inform the public about what the Beautification Committee is and what we do, and we will be handing out flyers, coffee mugs, WHNC bags and pens. Steve reminded the committee that we had voted to paint hydrants for the December 11 cleanup, but perhaps that would be cancelled. Dan suggested we use the December 11 date to finish the unfinished part of Fallbrook between Ingomar and Saticoy from our August cleanup. Heidi suggested we clean up the cul-de-sac on the east side of Mae Boyar Park. Brad suggested we reconsider the December cleanup at the November meeting. He also suggested we pick 2022 dates at our November meeting.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on creating a community garden; report on progress on “paper street” with Lee’s office by Brad and Steve; possibility of other locations.

The community garden was discussed briefly at last month's meeting. Bonnie said that UCLA's study regarding The Santa Susanna incident warned that there should be no garden within a two-mile radius. Christina said the pie lot across from Chaminade could be made into a garden, including food plants. Steve advised that the pie lot is being reviewed by Councilmember Lee's office and will check on that office's progress on the issue. Brad advised Ron Rubine was working on making the pie lot a pollinating park and will check on the status of that suggestion. Christina said that a bag of pollinator seed bombs could be used on the Saticoy lot because it contains many different kinds of seeds, and that such a bag will be available at the November event, and that getting mulch is available. Faye reminded everyone that the Saticoy lot has no source of water. Heidi said water could be trucked in.

7. This item is a duplicate of #6.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Creation of a Pocket Park or Parklet – Related to LADOT Livable Streets Projects:

Brad advised this project seeks to make streets more friendly, and there already is one on Rinaldi. Christina advised the best plantings are native plants, similar to the Platt Field. Dan commented that there is an access problem with Platt Field. Dan also commented that just as with a paper street, a pocket park must be discussed with and agreed to by neighbors nearby. Dan also said he thinks the corner of Valley Circle and Roscoe, where the art wall project is proposed, would be ideal for a pocket park. Brad suggested that the area at the intersection of Sale and Marlin behind Shadow Ranch Park, because there are no buses there. Brad also suggested a tree canopy on the Platt islands. Christina believes before any new trees are put on the Platt islands, the City must have a specific request to remove the old and dead trees, otherwise the canopy will not survive. Heidi advised that where there are presently dead tree stumps, our committee could prepare and distribute a flyer on "how to order a new tree from the City". Brad said that information for ordering and receiving a tree could also be put on social media and flyers. Joan warned that some City trees have and/or create problems and cost money, so to be careful not to plant invasive trees. This matter is tabled to the November meeting for more information.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on a West Hills "Best Garden Contest" or "Landscaping Contest":

Faye stated this topic might be better to reconsider in the spring. This matter is tabled to January, 2022.

10. LA City Park Maintenance Updates, Including Reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks:

Brad said Rec and Parks is really badly pressed for personnel, so this matter would be better to consider at the beginning of next calendar year. This matter is tabled to January, 2022.

11. ROW Letters:

Brad advised that ROW letters are most successful immediately after delivery. However, after the homeowners initially take care of the problem, they usually repeat their old bad habits of not taking care of the problem.

Heidi advised that on March Avenue at Ingomar, the detritus has been taken off the sidewalk but only put onto the parkway on Elkwood. Brad will check on the letter sent to the homeowners and advise. There were no other suggestions for ROW letters.

12. Strike Team Reports:

Steve reported that he cut overhanging branches of a neighbor's pine tree.

Dan reported that he removed many signs.

Heidi reported she called 311 to collect the palm fronds on March and the fronds were collected.

Steve reported that on Eccles, four large trees blew over and were removed, but one tree remains and needs to be removed. So he sent a message to John Lee's office about that remaining tree.

Christina advised to take a grocery bag with you when you walk, with a message on the bag to properly dispose of trash, and pick up and remove whatever trash you can.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and Prior Suggested Projects:

- a. Attracting nurseries/garden shops to beautify an area and then receive "free" publicity for the cleanup
- b. Post office Update
- c. Spring plantings – locations and sponsors
- d. Suggestions for dog poop left by careless neighbors
- e. Any new ideas???

No one had any comments about this agenda item. It is tabled to November.

14. Suggestions for the November Agenda:

Heidi suggested we partner with Zoning and Planning, since that committee voted not to request the City install restrooms in the parks, to suggest something else to put into our parks, for example, shade structures, artificial grass. Heidi also mentioned that Lazy J needs more picnic tables with shade, either from trees or umbrellas. Christina said she supports picnic tables.

Myrl asked if the City will install restrooms even if Zoning and Planning does not want them? No one had any answer.

Brad asked if anyone had any park improvement suggestions. Joan said more seating would be good. Heidi suggested we should revisit this item to November to give the committee time to think of other improvement suggestions.

Myrl said there is only one picnic table at Castle Peak and more are needed there.

Myrl also reminded the committee that on November 6, John Lee's Office is sponsoring a drive-in movie night at Shadow Ranch Park and will show "The Wizard of Oz". Since there is availability for only 100 cars, reservations must be made with Lee's Office. Myrl also suggested the committee and/or the Board can have a booth or table there. Myrl also advised Wendy's is providing free food.

Christina inquired what committee is responsible for trails and stated that the Dayton Canyon trail remains unfinished.

Dan said Zoning and Planning should make Pulte live up to its promise about Dayton Canyon. Dan also advised that the movie event is an annual event and WHNC always tables.

Heidi inquired about a horse trail. Christina advised there is one on Roscoe west of Valley Circle.

Brad adjourned the meeting at 7:19 PM.

The next Beautification committee meeting will be held on November 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM on ZOOM.